

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fastener tool comprising:

- a housing comprising a nosepiece;
- a magazine connected to the housing for storing a fastener;
- a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;
- a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism;
- a nosepiece cover pivotally attached to the nosepiece;
- a latch pivotally attached to the nosepiece cover; and
- a latch wire pivotally attached to the latch for engaging at least one hook disposed on the nosepiece;
- wherein the latch wire has a portion extending between the latch and the hook, the portion having at least two bends.

2. The fastener tool of Claim 1, wherein the nosepiece has a cutout for allowing at least one of the two bends to extend beyond the nosepiece cover.

3. A fastener tool comprising:

- a housing;
- a magazine connected to the housing for storing a fastener;
- a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism; and

a trigger lock disposed between the housing and the trigger assembly, the trigger lock being movable between a first position limiting the pivoting range of the trigger assembly relative to the housing for preventing the trigger assembly from activating the driving mechanism, and a second position not preventing the trigger assembly from activating the driving mechanism position.

4. The fastener tool of Claim 3, wherein the trigger lock is rotatable between the first and second positions.

5. The fastener tool of Claim 3, wherein the trigger lock has a handle for moving the trigger lock between the first and second positions.

6. The fastener tool of Claim 3, wherein the trigger lock is rotatable between the first and second positions about an axis substantially perpendicular to rotational axis of the trigger assembly relative to the housing.

7. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece;

a magazine connected to the housing for storing a fastener;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism; and

a nosepiece cover pivotally attached to the nosepiece;

wherein one of the nosepiece and the nosepiece cover have a protrusion contacting the other of the nosepiece and the nosepiece cover upon rotation of the nosepiece cover for limiting rotational motion range of the nosepiece cover relative to the nosepiece.

8. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece;

a magazine connected to the nosepiece for storing a fastener, the magazine having top, side and bottom walls, a fastener loading space disposed between the top and bottom walls, a door movable between the top and bottom walls, and a pusher disposed in the fastener loading space for pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism;

wherein the top wall of the magazine has a window disposed near the nosepiece for showing when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

9. The fastener tool of Claim 8, wherein the pusher has a colored portion that is visible through the window when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

10. The fastener tool of Claim 8, further comprising a pin disposed on the magazine for stopping the pusher from entering into the nosepiece.

11. The fastener tool of Claim 10, wherein the pin is disposed on the door.

12. The fastener tool of Claim 8, further comprising a window disposed on the door near the nosepiece for showing when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

13. The fastener tool of Claim 12, wherein the pusher has a colored portion that is visible through the window when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

14. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece;

a magazine connected to the nosepiece for storing a fastener, the magazine having top, side and bottom walls, a fastener loading space disposed between the top and bottom walls, a door movable between the top and bottom walls, and a pusher disposed in the fastener loading space for pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism;

wherein the door has a window disposed near the nosepiece for showing when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

15. The fastener tool of Claim 14, wherein the pusher has a colored portion that is visible through the window when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

16. The fastener tool of Claim 14, further comprising a pin disposed on the magazine for stopping the pusher from entering into the nosepiece.

17. The fastener tool of Claim 16, wherein the pin is disposed on the door.

18. The fastener tool of Claim 14, further comprising a window disposed on the top wall of the magazine near the nosepiece for showing when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

19. The fastener tool of Claim 18, wherein the pusher has a colored portion that is visible through the window when a low number of fasteners remains in the magazine.

20. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece and a handle;

a magazine connected to the housing for storing a fastener;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece;

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism; and

a hook assembly disposed on the handle, the hook assembly comprising a hook rotatably attached to the handle,

one of the hook and the handle having a detent engaging a notch on the other of the hook and the handle.

21. The fastener tool of Claim 20, wherein the hook extends substantially parallel to longitudinal axis of the handle.

22. The fastener tool of Claim 20, wherein the hook is made of wire.

23. The fastener tool of Claim 20, wherein the handle comprises a ring with the protrusion.

24. The fastener tool of Claim 20, wherein the hook is made of plastic molded over steel.

25. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece and a handle;

a magazine assembly connected to the housing for storing a fastener, the magazine assembly comprising an upper magazine with a rail for receiving a fastener head,

a lower magazine fixedly attached to the upper magazine, the lower magazine defining a fastener channel and a pusher channel, and

a pusher assembly for pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece, the pusher comprising a carriage which slides along the rail, a pin extending from the carriage extending into the pusher channel, an upper pusher pivotably attached to the pin, the upper pusher having a tab which can be moved by a user, a lower pusher pivotably attached to the pin, the lower pusher having a contact surface for contacting the fastener and pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece, and a spring for biasing the upper and lower pushers towards the fastener channel;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece; and

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism;

wherein the lower pusher has a camming surface to bypass fasteners inserted into the magazine assembly when the pusher assembly is moved towards the end of the magazine assembly farthest from the nosepiece, and

the upper magazine having at least one indentation near the end of the magazine assembly farthest from the nosepiece for latching the upper pusher.

26. The fastener tool of Claim 25, wherein the magazine assembly comprises a retainer disposed near the end of the magazine assembly farthest from the nosepiece for retaining fasteners within the magazine assembly.

27. The fastener tool of Claim 26, wherein the retainer extends into the fastener channel.

28. The fastener tool of Claim 27, wherein the retainer has a camming surface which

moves the retainer out of the fastener channel when fasteners are inserted into the magazine assembly.

29. The fastener tool of Claim 27, wherein the retainer is made of a resilient material.

30. The fastener tool of Claim 29, wherein the retainer is made of metal.

31. A method for using a fastener tool with a magazine assembly, comprising the steps of:

providing a pusher assembly in the magazine assembly that can bypass fasteners inserted into the magazine assembly and that can be releasably locked at the rear end of the magazine assembly;

in a first mode of operation, inserting fasteners into the magazine assembly, and moving the pusher assembly towards the rear end of the magazine assembly; and

in a second mode of operation, moving the pusher assembly towards the rear end of the magazine assembly, locking the pusher assembly at the rear end of the magazine assembly, inserting fasteners into the magazine assembly, and releasing the pusher assembly.

32. A fastener tool comprising:

a housing comprising a nosepiece and a handle;

a magazine assembly connected to the housing for storing a fastener, the magazine assembly comprising

a magazine defining a fastener channel and a pusher channel, and

a pusher assembly for pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece, the pusher assembly sliding along the pusher channel and comprising a pusher for contacting the

fastener and pushing the fastener towards the nosepiece, and a spring for biasing the pusher towards the fastener channel;

a driving mechanism disposed within the housing for driving the fastener into a workpiece; and

a trigger assembly pivotally attached to the housing for activating the driving mechanism;

wherein the pusher has a camming surface to bypass fasteners inserted into the magazine assembly when the pusher assembly is moved towards the end of the magazine assembly farthest from the nosepiece, and

the magazine having at least one indentation near the end of the magazine assembly farthest from the nosepiece for latching the pusher.